

FELC Friendship Pads

Please fill out the Friendship Pad when asked during worship. If the church office does not currently have your contact information or it has changed, please indicate that in the appropriate column.

Nursery Care

The Downtown Site Nursery (located across from the Library in the Gathering Area) and the North Site Nursery (off the main hallway, across from the restrooms) are open for family use during all services. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

Hearing Assistance

If you are in need of a personal receiver, ask a Downtown Site usher, or a North Site soundboard technician.

Large-print Resources

At the Downtown Site, if you are in need of a large print Bible or bulletin, please ask an usher.

AED Units on Site

Automated external defibrillators are outside the Downtown Site Usher's Room and next to the North Site sound booth.

Video Recording

The 8:30 a.m. Downtown Site worship service is video-recorded to share with our homebound members upon request.

In Need of Prayer?

For additions to the prayer chain, email or call the church office (felc@felc.com; 733-2303).

More Information

For detailed information on these and more FELC events, opportunities and ministries, pick up a newsletter in the Gathering Area, visit our website at www.felc.com, or check the bulletin boards and kiosks in the Gathering Area.

The Week of Sept. 23, 2018 At-A-Glance

Sunday, Sept. 23

8:50 a.m.
9:15/9:25 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
11:45 a.m.

Cherub/Angelus Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
Women's Study Group, NS Library
Ukulele Combo Rehearsal, NS Sanctuary
New & Review Week 2, NS Lower Level

Monday

9 a.m.
5:15 p.m.
8:15 p.m.

Quilters, DS Fellowship Hall
Congregational Life Ministry Team, NS Library
Pick Up Basketball, NS Activity Center

Tuesday

6:30 a.m.
6 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
8 p.m.

Men's Ministry, NS Library
Baptism Workshop, NS Pastor's Office
Congregation Council, NS Library
ATC Basketball, NS Activity Center

DS=Downtown Site
NS=North Site

Wednesday

10:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m.
5:30 p.m.

Bible Study with Pastor Mary, DS 221
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room
refuel Grades 10-12, Meet at Hofacker's Orchard, W3964 Wege Rd, Appleton
Wednesday Worship, DS Sanctuary
Parish Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room & Sanctuary
Confirmation General Session All Grades, DS Assigned Rooms & Sanctuary

Thursday

6 a.m.
9 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Early Risers Women's Study, DS Lounge
Adult Bible Study, DS Lounge
Men's Ministry Neighborhood Picnic, Seeds of Grace Learning Garden
Bridge Group, DS 114
FELC Book Club, DS Lounge

Friday

6:30 a.m.

License to Cruise Parking Lot Fundraiser, DS

Saturday Sunday, Sept. 30

8:50 a.m.
9:15 a.m.
9:15/9:25 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
11:45 a.m.
Noon

**Octoberfest Parking Lot Fundraiser, DS
Bake Sale, Both Sites After Each Service**
Cherub/Angelus Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
Adult Learning Time, DS Lounge
Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
Women's Study Group, NS Library
DS Sunday School Meeting for Parents, DS Fellowship Hall
New & Review Week 3, Pastor Jeff's Home
Using Your Bible Class for 3rd Grade Students & Parents, DS 110

Nursery Care Needed

FELC is seeking individuals interested in assisting with childcare on Sunday mornings and occasional evenings. These paid positions are for both the Downtown and North Sites. The Church is also seeking to fill the paid role of Nursery Coordinator. This role is responsible for scheduling and ensuring Nursery staffing for both sites. If you are interested in these valuable roles, please contact Sara Laumer at 738-4738.



First English Lutheran Church

www.felc.com felc@felc.com

Downtown Site

Sunday Worship: 8, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Worship: 6:15 p.m.

Office Hours: M-Th: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

F: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

North Site

Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Announcements

Week of Sept. 23, 2018

Love Jesus. Live your call.

First English is committed to becoming a more welcoming, inclusive congregation.

Sunday at FELC

Adult Learning Today-Downtown Site

This morning (9:15 a.m. in the Lounge) we will discuss the Bible lessons from worship today.

Adult Learning Beginning Next Week:

Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart

Do you wonder what to say when someone is dealing with grief, heartache or struggles? Join us as we study the lessons provided by Stephen Ministry founder Kenneth Haugk and receive practical ideas on how to respond to those in need. Beginning Sunday, Sept. 30, at 9:15 a.m. in the Downtown Site Lounge.

North Site Women's Study Group

Join the Women's Study group on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the North Site Library. For the next few months there will be a "no preparations needed Bible Study" in which the group will review and discuss the story being taught in Sunday School. The focus will be on going deeper into these stories and talking about ways the lessons apply to our everyday lives. For more information, contact deni.kuchler@gmail.com.

Welcome Sarah

Please welcome Sarah Bauer, our interim North Site Discipleship Coordinator. Sarah will be working on Sunday mornings at the North Site until Christmas, helping our visitors and members connect to the church and relaying information about service opportunities. We're glad to have her on staff!

Lawrence University Cantorei

We are delighted to have students from the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music back this fall at the 10:30 a.m. service at the Downtown Site. Part outreach to the neighboring Lawrence University community, part educational opportunity for these young musicians, and part gift to our own congregation, this endeavor has been made possible through the generous donation of the late Robert Roloff.

This group of cantorei (literally, the plural form of *cantor*) will sing most Sundays that the university is in session. Please say hello to these marvelous students should you encounter them on a Sunday morning. We will rehearse in the Choir Room from 9:15-10:15 a.m. each Sunday before the late service. Don't be afraid to drop in for a visit.

We can't stress enough what a fantastic opportunity this is for these students to enrich their faith, learn about the liturgy of the church, and hone their skills as singers in a small sacred vocal ensemble. We are blessed with this abundance of riches made possible by God's loving hand. This month we hear these words on the 21st Sunday after Pentecost: "Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'" (Mark 10:27).

Looking Ahead

Baptism Class

If you would like to have your child baptized at First English, we will have a Baptism Class on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. in the Pastor's Office at the North Site. Please call the Church Office at 733-2303 or email Pastor Mary at mbauer@felc.com in order to sign up for this class. We look forward to sharing our teachings about baptism along with helping you get to know others in your church family.

Let's Play Bridge

Do you enjoy playing  Bridge? If so, join us, the FELC's Bridge Life Group on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 1 p.m. in Room 114 at the Downtown Site. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Bob Herder, (920)738-6640.

Grace, Peace, and a Picnic in the Garden Provided for the FELC Downtown Site Neighborhood

Thursday, Sept. 27
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

FELC Seeds of Grace Learning Garden on the corner of North and Durkee streets. This free meal - a brat or a burger, chips and a bottle of water - is open to the community and is sponsored by the Men's Ministries of First English. Last month the group served over 90 guests! Come and enjoy some food and fellowship with the neighborhood.

LWR Trailer Load

On Saturday, Oct. 13 at 8 a.m. at the North Site, help load the trailers with all the Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits that have been created this past year. These items will be distributed to people in need throughout the world. Students grade 11 and up, and adults are encouraged to help, along with students in grades 7-10 if accompanied by a parent. Please note: the busiest time where help is needed the most is 8-9:30 a.m. Added incentive: treats will be provided! Sign up at www.felc.com/forms.



Support High School Mission Trip Students

Next weekend will be a very busy one for our high school students fundraising for the mission trip! Here are ways YOU can help:

- Sign up to help out with a shift for our Octoberfest Parking Lot fundraiser at www.felc.com/highschool.
- Park at FELC Downtown Site for License to Cruise (Sept. 28) or Octoberfest (Sept. 29) and pay \$10.
- Donate baked goods and bring to the Downtown Site Office this week to be available for purchase at the Bake Sale next Sunday.
- Bring cash for a free will offering Bake Sale next Sunday, Sept. 30.

Thank you for supporting FELC Youth!

Calling All Bakers -The Tradition Widens

We invite the North Site to join with the Downtown Site in the tradition of "Calling All Bakers," that is, sharing a gift of baking for Sunday morning coffee hour. Not only does this gift enhance the coffee hour but it goes a long way in helping to control congregation expenses. Please complete the signup sheet near the coffee table. Each baker should plan on bringing approximately four dozen goodies. Questions? Contact Kathy Larson at klarson@felc.com, 733-2303.



GriefShare

GriefShare is a nation-wide ministry that helps people deal with the death of a loved one. This 12-week video curriculum includes discussion time allowing people to share their own experiences with grief. The fall session will begin on Monday, Oct. 1. For more information or to purchase the workbook, please connect with Pastor Mary. Sessions are on Monday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. in Downtown Site Room 221. You are welcome to come at any time in the curriculum.

Is Prayer Your Steering Wheel or Your Spare Tire? - Corrie ten Boom

A pit crew is vital to the success of a race car finishing the race. On the highway of life, a prayer team is vital for lifting prayer requests to God so he can steer us in the right direction. Nothing is too small or too large that can't be sent to God in prayer. Please email any prayer requests or if you would like to be part of the crew, to Jeanne at jgronholm@felc.com or Pastor Mary at mbauer@felc.com. As part of the team, you will receive prayer requests via email and would then lift them in prayer at your earliest convenience.

Join FELC4NAMI at NAMIWalks Fox Valley

Saturday, Oct. 6, 8:15 a.m. (Check in: 7-8 a.m.)
Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Stadium
2400 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton

This 5K event raises funds and awareness for those needing resources and support who live with or care about someone living with mental illness. To join or support our team, sign up in the Gathering Area or visit www.namifoxvalley.org and select "NAMIWalks." Search for our team: FELC4NAMI, and select *Join Our Team*. Sign on, raise funds if you can, and join us Oct. 6!

Prayer Connection

Prayer connects us to each other in this community of faith and to Christ. To be included in the list of prayers, submit names to the church office or the First English staff. Names are removed after one month, but can always be extended by request. Please remember these First English members, friends and families in prayer in the coming week:

Prayers of Healing, Wholeness & Peace

- Mary Lou Gamsworthy
- Nathan Meissner
- Angel Manos
- Todd Hollenberger
- Jacob Schwab
- Justin Schwab
- Laurie Niles
- Lynn Boenker
- Debra Boushley
- David Heindel
- Doug Hansen
- Amy Ponomarev
- Moore Peregrine
- Tom Roy
- Je'Ann Johnson
- Paul Henrikson
- Juanita Gauerke
- Robb Schaefer
- Kim Norland
- Taylor Vivian Thompson
- Carol Peterson
- Bev Hoff
- Dennis Paisar
- Beth Nemecek
- Burt Blank
- Karen Foster
- Alex VanMaren

Prayers of Comfort Families of:

- Nancy Johnson
- Shirley Kavanaugh
- Senator John McCain

Prayers of Thanksgiving Baptisms of:

- Della Autumn Wildenberg
- Ella Jo DeVos

Prayers for Those Called to Serve in Other Countries

- Stephanie Olson

Prayers for Those in the Military

- Lt. Josh Anderson
- Christian Cramer
- BM3 Kyle Kramer, USCG
- LCPL Robert Kopesky II
- SPC Samuel Sinclair

This Week's Community Care Focus

- Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce
(920)734-7101; info@foxcitiescamber.com



High School Youth News

Grades 9-12

Sept. 23, 2018



For Grades 10-12
Wednesday nights
DS Youth Room
7-8 p.m.

9/26: 5:30-6pm *Special event refuel night*
Meet at Hofacker's Hillside Orchard (W3964 Wege Rd, Appleton)
6-7pm bonfire at NS for caramel apples with tons of toppings
If it rains we will hang out at NS Youth Room.

10/3: Back to normal time and place!

Social Media Corner

Follow us at FELC YOUTH on Facebook and felc.youth on Instagram!
#justdoit



High School Mission Trip Blue Ridge Mountains, NC July 20-27, 2019

Did you miss the September 20 deadline but still REALLY want to attend the High School Mission Trip in the summer of 2019? Contact Heidi ASAP to see if there's a space open for you!
(hschreiner@felc.com)

Upcoming fundraisers for 2019 Mission Trip:

License to Cruise/
Octoberfest Parking Lot fundraiser:
Sept. 28: 5:45-8pm
Sept. 29: 8:30am-4pm
Bake Sale:
Sept. 30: Between all services at both sites
Sign up for shifts at www.felc.com/highschool or email Heidi.

Sept. 23, 2018



Information for FELC Youth and Families
Grades K-12

Support High School Mission Trip Students

Next weekend will be a very busy one for our high school students fundraising for the mission trip.

Ways you can help:

1. Sign up to help out with a shift for our Octoberfest Parking Lot fundraiser at www.felc.com/highschool.
2. Park at FELC DS for License to Cruise (Sept. 28) or Octoberfest (Sept. 29) and pay \$10
3. Donate baked goods and bring to DS Office this week to be available for purchase at Bake Sale next Sunday.
4. Bring cash for a free will offering Bake Sale next Sunday, Sept. 30!

Thank you for supporting FELC Youth!

Find us on Social Media Outlets

Instagram: felc.youth Facebook: FELC YOUTH

Connect with FELC Youth Staff

Kirsten Owens, Faith Formation Coordinator: kowens@felc.com
Heidi Schreiner, Youth & Summer Ministry Coordinator: hschreiner@felc.com

Love Jesus. Live your call.



Elementary Sunday School, Song, And Special News



Batter Up, Downtown Parents! You're Next

The Parent Meeting at North Site went super last Sunday! Downtown Site parents, now it's *your* turn! In order for parents and caregivers to understand the mission of Sunday morning education, get tips on how to build faith in the home, and hear about changes in the Sunday School program, it is a huge help to meet. Please make every effort to attend the Sunday School Meeting at the Downtown Site on Sept. 30 from 10:20-10:50 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

We've got a lot of work to do, so let's get off to a great start!

When Winter Gets Good

The FELC 4th & 5th graders are headed to Crossways Winter Camp on Jan. 25-27! This will be a fun weekend of winter games, songs, and fun faith building with friends. Go to www.felc.com/forms to request a registration form. This is gonna be goooooood!



Using Your Bible for 3rd Graders

Last Sunday our 3rd grade students received their Bibles as a gift from First English. On Sept. 30 we are offering the *Using Your Bible* Class for 3rd Graders from noon-1:15 p.m. at the Downtown Site in Room 110. We will discuss the anatomy of the Bible, the history, and how to navigate scripture. This is all important information for moving forward in religious education. Pizza will be served. RSVP at www.felc.com/forms.

Choir Keeps Singin' at the Downtown Site

If your children love to sing then we want to do it with them! Cherub Choir (K-grade 2) meets in Room 220 and Angelus Choir (grades 3-6) meets in the Choir Room. Both rehearse from 8:50-9:10 a.m. weekly. All are welcome as often as you can make it.

Next time we sing:

Angelus - Today at 9:15 a.m.
Cherub - Oct. 7 at 9:15 a.m.



Confirmation and Middle School Scoop



Up Close & Personal in Small Group This Week



7th Grade: Students should have one Question to Ponder from **Chapter 1** answered in their journals for small group

8th grade: Students should have one Question to Ponder from **Chapter 1** answered in their journals for small group

9th grade: We will be doing a devo dig in small group to equip students to do their 3x a week devotion journaling.



7th Grade Lock-In

If you are a new 7th grade Confirmation student make sure to save Oct. 5-6 from 6 p.m. - 8:30 a.m. at the North Site for the Kick-Off to Confirmation Lock-In. We'll have dinner and breakfast together, play games, have contemplative worship, and have a blast getting to know each other. This is one of the most loved events in the program.

Family Assignment Alert!

Help fill the trailers on Oct. 13 at 8 a.m. at the North Site for your family assignment. We need families to load Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits that have been created this past year. These items will be distributed to people in need throughout the world. Students in grades 7-10 are asked to be accompanied by at least one parent. Please note: the busiest time where help is needed the most is 8 - 9:30 a.m. Added incentive: treats will be provided! Go to www.felc.com/forms to sign up.



Have questions or want to volunteer?

Contact Kirsten Owens at kowens@felc.com or 733-2303.

FELC DS Engage Page: 9-23-18, 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 9:30-37 *They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."*

Sun, Sep. 23: Family Project: According to her teacher, the first full sentences my daughter spoke at school was, "He's not the leader." Apparently, someone going out of turn and usurping the spot at the head of the line forced her to speak. Talk as a family about what it feels like to be in charge. How does it make you feel if someone else is being bossy? Have you had a chance to babysit a younger brother or sister? Or have you had an older sibling babysit you? How does that feel? Jesus says we have to be a servant in order to follow Him. Does that mean we can't lead? Talk+ about what it means to be a servant even when we're the boss.

Mon, Sep. 24: There was recently a well-deserved outcry on Twitter over the attempt to shame actor Geoffrey Owens through a picture taken while he was working at Trader Joe's. It was implied he should be ashamed of this job. Just as the disciples needed to guard against a desire to be seen as "the greatest", we must guard against any temptation to value people differently because of their occupation. Jesus makes it clear that he will not judge us on how many we lead, but on how well we serve.

Tues, Sep. 25: Prof. Elisabeth Johnson shares, "The radical grace of God that Jesus proclaims and lives completely obliterates the world's notions of greatness based on status, wealth, achievement, etc. Perhaps that is one reason we resist grace so much. It is much more appealing to be great on the world's terms than on Jesus' terms. Greatness on Jesus' terms means being humble, lowly, and vulnerable as a child." http://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=3785

Wed, Sep 26, Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Exodus 16 tells the story of the people of Israel desiring meat to eat, the Lord hearing their complaints and providing the meat. In Numbers the Israelites are complaining again, but now the Lord gets angry, Moses gets angry and along with the meat comes a plague. Why the difference? In between these two tellings was the establishment of the law. When rules about proper behavior were clearly set out, proper behavior was expected. Similarly, until we have clearly stated expectations, we might not punish a child for bad behavior. The establishment of the law in Israel set the standard for behavior. These new laws brought with them judgment. Praise God that Jesus gives forgiveness, breaking the cycle of sin and punishment.

Thurs, Sep. 27, Psalm 19:7-14 How many times have you been at a loss about how to act in a particular situation. "What can I do?", is a question I've asked almost as many times as I've heard it asked. It's a question that is pertinent not only in difficult times, but also when we think about our purpose in life and how to make our actions align with our dreams and hopes. The Psalmist makes it clear –listen to the Lord's instruction, follow God's commandments and decrees, and live in awe of the gifts of creation, instruction, and redemption. This prevents us from being mired in the mistakes that come from pride and insolence.

Fri., Sep. 28, James 5:13-20 This passage from James paints a lovely picture of what it means to be in a caring community. When we are cheerful, we should sing out boldly; when we are suffering we should pray for each other; when we see those wandering away from faith, we should bring them back. All of these things can happen when we are part of a community that is open in its dealings with one another. If I am not willing to share my joys, my doubts and my sorrows, how can another possibly pray for me, help me, or praise God with me? We may feel vulnerable to be honest about difficulties, but keeping struggles inside doesn't bring hope, it brings isolation. Open your heart to God and each other!

Sat, Sep. 29, Mark 9:38-50 When the disciples saw someone cast out demons in Jesus name, they were concerned since he wasn't "*one of our company*." They asked Jesus if the man should be stopped, and Jesus said no, "*There is no one who can do a work of power in the strength of my name and lightly speak evil of me. He who is not against us is for us.*" Intolerant of competing theology, it is easy to imply that those who aren't "*one of our company*" are outside of the truth or even God's grace. Jesus reminds the disciples that God is not limited to their idea of "insiders" and "outsiders." Theologian William Barclay asserts that "*the basis of tolerance is simply the realization of the magnitude of the orb of truth.*" (p. 235)

*For an online discussion of these and other questions concerning the texts, go to our Facebook FELC Engage Page. <https://www.facebook.com/FELC-Downtown-Site-Engage-Page>

FELC NS Engage Page: September 23, Pentecost 17

Mark 8:27-38 *Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, I will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."*

Sun. Sep.23: Family Project: Jesus said, *"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."* Talk about times that you have given up something (time, money, or talents) because you are a follower of Jesus. What are ways that you *"take up your cross"*? As a family talk about what it means to sacrifice for something you believe in. What are some of the beliefs or ideals that you would be willing to sacrifice for?

Mon. Sep.24: Caesarea Philippi had been a center of worship of the god, Baal. Outside of town was a cavern said to have been the birthplace of the Greek God, Pan. From those hills flowed a stream held to be the source of the River Jordan. Further up the hill was a temple built by the emperor Philip to honor Caesar, considered a god. Bible scholar, William Barclay, says, *"Against the background of all religions and all history, Peter discovered that a wandering teacher from Nazareth... was the Son of God."* (p. 196) Thankfully, the power of Jesus' teachings and example still reaches across all religions to bring healing and hope.

Tues. Sep.25: Have you ever followed the example of Peter? You might want to lighten the load of a friend by encouraging them to give up on a difficult commitment. Or you might want to keep a family member nearby, advising them not to follow a calling that would have them move. Don't be Peter! Pray that you have the insight to urge your friends to follow God, even when the path is difficult.

Wed., Sep. 26, Genesis 2:18-24 We must work to undo the harmful ways this passage has been interpreted. A 15th century manual for dealing with women accused of witchcraft states, *"there was a defect in the formation of the first woman, since she was formed from a bent rib, that is, a rib of the breast, which is bent as it were in a contrary direction to a man. And since through this defect she is an imperfect animal, she always deceives."* The description of woman as the *"helper"* of man has been used to suggest women have a subservient role. Even so, this passage carries a tenderness of spirit as the man proclaims the woman is flesh of his flesh, implying the sort of interdependency that is present in vital marriages. May we all pray to promote respectful unions where two become one flesh!

http://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=3792

Thurs. Sep. 27. Psalm 8 I am awestruck by the miracle of life on planet earth. In this psalm, humans are viewed as royalty (*"crowned with glory and honor"* and given *"dominion"* over God's creation) and are given the caretaking responsibilities that royalty would have. James Limburg writes, *"Royalty are responsible for caring for the weakest...This means that humans...are to exercise care for the earth and its creatures. Psalm 8 is a call for humans to act as responsible royalty and to care for the fragile blue planet we call our home."* **Psalms*, James Limburg (Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville) p. 26.

Fri., Sep. 28, Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Professor Craig Koester asserts that the mood of the church of Hebrews was one of apathy. *"Some simply drifted away. When asked why they no longer came to worship, they replied that they simply forgot or did not feel like it. The writer describes it as "neglect" (Hebrews 10:25)."* This situation is found in many congregations today! The writer of Hebrews addressed this situation by creatively reminding them that God still speaks through our Savior, Jesus who was willing to suffer for and with us. *"The promised land still beckons, and the conviction that God has a future for them gives courage to persevere."*

*http://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=3790

Sat. Sep. 29, Mark 10:2-16 Divorce was a very present issue in Jesus' day. Laws allowed a man to divorce his wife for something as trivial as being a bad cook, spinning in public, or simply because he had found someone more pleasing. A woman did not have similar rights. Instead of agreeing with a man's rights over a woman, Jesus reminds the Pharisees that what God has made one flesh, no one should divide –and certainly not for a trivial reason. Those who have gone through the heartbreak of divorce have experienced the tearing apart that happens. May we do all we can to support loving, equitable relationships. May we work to help one another sustain that love through struggles and to care for each other when divorce does happen.

*For an online discussion of these and other questions concerning the texts, go to our Facebook FELC Engage Page. <https://www.facebook.com/FELC-North-Site-Engage-Page>

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE HURRICANE FLORENCE

SEPTEMBER 2018

ELCA.org/disaster

Hurricane Florence is threatening more than 1 million of our neighbors in the Carolinas and elsewhere with dangerous winds, storm surge and potentially catastrophic flooding.

As a church, we're standing ready to assist our neighbors through their recovery. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with Lutheran Services Carolinas, Lutheran Family Services of Virginia and the synods in the hurricane's path to respond to this disaster. In the midst of a hurricane season that is producing strong storms, Lutheran Disaster Response is also

monitoring Hurricane Helene, Tropical Storm Olivia and Tropical Storm Isaac and is prepared to respond.

Your gifts ensure that our church will be able to provide help and hope for those whose homes have been devastated or who have been otherwise affected by Hurricane Florence and other hurricanes for years to come.

Your gifts designated for *hurricane response* will be used entirely (100 percent) for direct response until it is complete. Give now to support survivors of disasters.

.....

YES, I WANT TO HELP!

- Lutheran Disaster Response: *Hurricane response* \$ _____ DDG0087
 Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where needed most* \$ _____ DDG0010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to
Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Write "*Hurricane response*" or "*Where needed most*" on your check's memo line.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

2018 Downtown Site Summer Worship Schedule Survey

We value your feelings about your worship experience here at First English Lutheran Church.

1. Do you prefer having two or three Sunday services during the summer ?

Two

Three

2. This summer I attended worship services at the following time(s):

Almost always at 8:30 a.m.

Almost always at 10 a.m.

Sometimes at 8:30 a.m. and sometimes at 10 a.m.

Wednesday evening services

Did not attend

3. My choice of which service to attend was based on:
(Check all that apply)

The time that works best for me and/or my family

The style of worship

Music selections

Numbers attending the service

Other (please explain) _____

4. If you have any additional comments that you wish to share or ideas for us to improve your experience, please provide them here:

**Please place completed survey in the Offering plate
or in the basket in the Gathering Area.**